



○ **PEOPLE
NEED
PEOPLE**

by Harvey A. Kroepel

Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.

(Matt. 25:40)

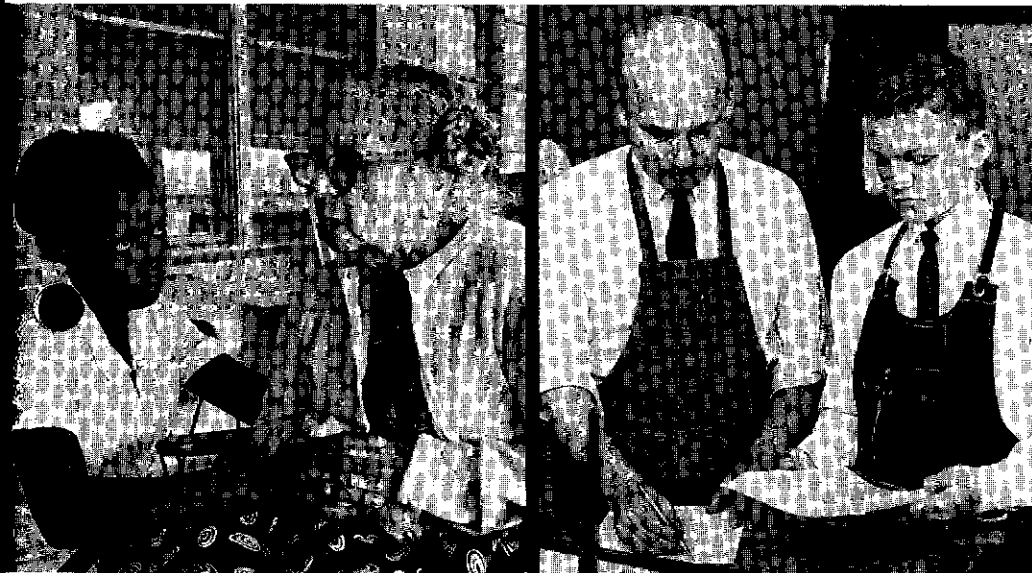
Truly I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to me.

(Matt. 25:45)

● **6½ MILLION**

Retarded People in America

NEED LOVE, TRAINING,



SERVICE

● The President of the United States Committee on Mental Retardation in the 1969 report states, "Some 5 million of the nation's estimated 6 million mentally retarded are never reached by any kind of service developed specifically to meet the needs of the retarded."



Mentally retarded persons are people who need help in order to grow, develop and blossom into the persons they could be.

WE NEED

to be reminded about what is basic and essential in life through working directly with retarded people.

God created the world for all people.

God made salvation possible for all people—including the retarded.

The process for receiving salvation is the same for all.

In a recent meeting discussing a possible parish education curriculum for retarded children, Dr. Henry Burtress said, "When we discover what the retarded can learn, then we know what we must know."

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Who Are the Mentally Retarded?

THE MENTALLY RETARDED ARE PEOPLE!

These people of our society have been called by many names and titles, and have been ignored and shunted aside so often that by our actions we have classified them to be less than people. But they are truly average human beings in almost every respect except in one area of development—the intellectual. People who are labeled “*Retarded*” are those children and adults, who, as a result of an inadequately developed or damaged brain are impaired primarily in their ability to learn and to adapt to the demands placed upon them.

Retarded people in our society have had many doors closed to them. Many of them are placed for life without trial or conviction of wrongdoing into a setting that is dehumanizing in almost every respect. Often persons carrying the label “retarded” are restricted to a very small world of experiences just because they cannot keep pace with the so-called “normals” who have unlimited freedom and opportunity because of faculties received at birth.

Mentally retarded people are capable of functioning emotionally in a very “normal” way. In fact, in their expression of love to others they show little restraint. They show their feelings not only in verbal expression, but often they express emotion with their whole person. They do not use sophisticated terminology; they “tell it like it is.”

Having been rejected so often, and having felt merely tolerated in many situations of life, these people often try too hard to be accepted, seen, acknowledged, and they strive to receive the fullest attention in every encounter with others—especially people they have not met before.

While some retardates also have physical handicaps, most of them could not be recognized as retarded only by their physical appearance. Outwardly most of them look like other people.

People need people. This is no less true for the mentally retarded.

They have a need to be accepted as individuals. All retardates have their own individual uniqueness, as do “normal” people. Most of their needs arise not because they have vastly more needs than others, but because of our gross neglect of these people in years gone by.

The mentally retarded are people who need people!

	Approximate percent of total Retarded	Estimated number in U.S.A.
Profound (Possible IQ 1-19)	1½ %	85,000
Severe (Possible IQ 20-35)	3½ %	200,000
Moderate (Possible IQ 36-50)	6%	350,000
Mild (Possible IQ 51-75)	89%	5½ million

Brief Description of Characteristics	Some possible ALCW involvements
<p>● In many cases this type of mental retardation will be noticed at birth. There will be noticeable delays in development in walking and response. Will very likely require nursing care throughout most of life. Speech will be limited. Can be helped somewhat to live a fuller life through involvement in regular physical activity.</p>	<p>Develop a "people sitting" service at home. Help the mother with home work on occasion. Share responsibility of caring for the child to free the mother.</p>
<p>● A child born with this level of retardation will also be slow in development. Can be trained to perform many self-help tasks such as feeding, walking, etc. Will require patient, systematic habit training and perhaps need supervision in at least a partially sheltered environment for life.</p>	<p>Provide special equipment such as wheel chair, stand up boxes, etc. Offer a day activity program at church.</p>
<p>Those with potentials in this intellectual range will also be slower in their development, especially in speech. Many of them can be trained to communicate their needs and desires, although most will never be able to read to any great extent. Most of them can be trained to care for their personal needs and will be able to come and go on their own in their community.</p>	<p>Help develop sheltered workshop. Conduct day activity center at the church. Provide day camp experience in community. Establish Sunday school class (interdenominational) Help make it possible for retarded persons to attend a residential camp.</p>
<p>● Some retardation is not discovered until they enter school. Mildly retarded persons often go through life with their deficiency unnoticed. They can usually become self-supporting but may need guidance. Prone to be taken advantage of.</p>	<p>Initiate or support state legislation for development of training programs suited to their needs. Provide recreational and social functions at which they would feel comfortable and wanted. Offer to seek jobs for them.</p>

Causes of Retardation

There are over 200 known causes of mental retardation, and still many cases are labeled as "cause undetermined." Some of the major known factors are the following:

PRENATAL

1. Virus diseases such as German measles in the mother, especially during the early months of pregnancy
2. Excessive X-rays during pregnancy
3. Chromosome abnormalities which cause mongolism
4. Severe accidents involving mother during pregnancy
5. Heredity

AT BIRTH

1. Brain injury in difficult childbirth
2. Lack of sufficient oxygen in early minutes after birth
3. Head injuries at birth

POSTNATAL

1. Inborn metabolism errors such as PKU (phenylketonuric)
2. Childhood infectious diseases, especially those which might cause a high fever
3. Rh factor incompatibility between mother and infant
4. Physical accidents
5. Lead poisoning
6. Gross deficiency of protein in daily diets

It might be an interesting and informative program for a local ALCW meeting to have a doctor discuss some of these and other causes of mental retardation in greater detail. It could also be a service to your community.

Some False Notions about Retarded Persons

Since the beginning of time human beings have held some very peculiar notions about people who are mentally retarded. As people visit institutions for the retarded it is common to hear a remark like, "Did you hear that? That boy knows the names of all the players on the St. Louis Cardinals team. Why, he even knew most of their batting averages. And that little girl—I am astounded to hear her sing all the words of song after song after song." These remarks highlight one false notion that because a person is retarded and can't learn everything as others do, he can't learn very much at all. That isn't true. Retardates are individuals. They all come from their own environments which help them to develop some of their own personal interests and capabilities. One boy, while not being a good public reader or speaker or singer, can know the names of baseball players and their batting averages. And the little girl who finds great reward in performing before an audience is thus encouraged to learn song after song and not care about baseball.

Another misconception which comes to light very often is almost a fear to have a retarded person, especially a retarded adult, living in the community because they may become violent. Like some normal people, some retarded persons under certain conditions may become violent, but this is not a typical characteristic.

Still another false notion which, by the way, irritates professional workers in the field, is that because a person is retarded he is also very helpless in almost every respect. Because of this, normal people do things for retarded persons which they could be taught to do for themselves. Buttoning or zipping up the coat of a retarded adult is not the kindest thing to do if he could be taught to do this for himself.

Another notion prevalent, even among the clergy and doctors, is that many, or even most, retarded persons should be institutionalized. Because of this, they have encouraged parents of retarded children to put them in an institution as soon as possible. Through education this trend is changing. It is true a few retardates may require a lifetime of institutional care; others may need a short-term diagnostic evaluation and some treatment at a residential center. The majority of retarded persons need never be confined to a state school or private home. At present 95% of them live in the community and only 5% in residential care and training centers.

Characteristics of the Retarded

While persons with a mental deficiency are people who are more *like* other people than *different*, there are a few characteristics that are worth noting.

Their ability to reason things out for themselves is impaired. To transfer what is learned in one situation to another which is somewhat similar is a skill they may not have.

Mongoloids have physical characteristics which are very similar in each person: an almond-shaped head, a nose somewhat flat, slanting eyes, large lips, stubby fingers, usually a deep voice, and a general shortness in stature.

Most retarded persons have a tendency to be less physically coordinated than normal people.

Many, having been rejected and shunted aside so often, have a tendency to react by talking *too* much and literally to "hang on" to new acquaintances which causes them to be rejected even more. They can't be talked out of these habits because their need for acceptance and recognition far exceeds their power of reasoning.

Besides being limited intellectually, many retardates have speech difficulties, some of which are due to the lack of development of the physical parts of the body that assist in producing normal sounds and combinations of sounds.

Deficiencies in hearing and variations in visual perception seem to be found more often among retardates.

Records show that some retarded persons are more susceptible to physical disease or dysfunction of the body than normal persons. For instance mongoloids are more prone to circulatory and respiratory disorders.

People just starting to work with retarded children should be aware that they also have a lesser sense of danger—especially foreseeing dangers in new situations.

Another typical characteristic, which may be considered a very positive one, is their tolerance of repetition. It can be considered positive in that it is necessary for them to repeat the performance of certain drills in a learning process. In a class with trainable retardates a teacher can repeat a drill of singing or story telling over and over, whereas a class of so-called normal children would soon clamor for something new and different. This characteristic is also a positive one in that many jobs in our society require routine, repetitive, simple tasks which would bore many people and cause them to quit the job, whereas a retarded individual could tolerate the repetition and perform the task.

History of Caring for the Retarded

Over the years the retarded have been neglected and, even worse, in some cases they have been confined to a dehumanizing environment rather than being helped to grow into their potential. Since the beginning of time human beings have been faced with the challenge of dealing with those among us who through birth, disease, or accident are limited in their ability to learn and function as other people do.

There were times in the past when the mentally retarded were a complete mystery to the public. Because of this lack of understanding they were persecuted, neglected, and mistreated. The Spartans, history books tell us, simply let the retarded die of exposure or bashed their heads against a rock.

In literature of ancient times it is said that in Rome it was rather common for wealthy people to keep some retarded persons in their household for entertainment purposes. They were brought out as jesters for the amusement of guests or used as playthings for the royal families.

Even Luther held some erroneous views that retarded were demon possessed.

In the 13th century the church began to deal with the retarded in a fashion that approached the general directives of Scripture. At that point in history they started providing asylums. There was no treatment or educational program, yet it was far better than that which had existed before, which was almost nothing.

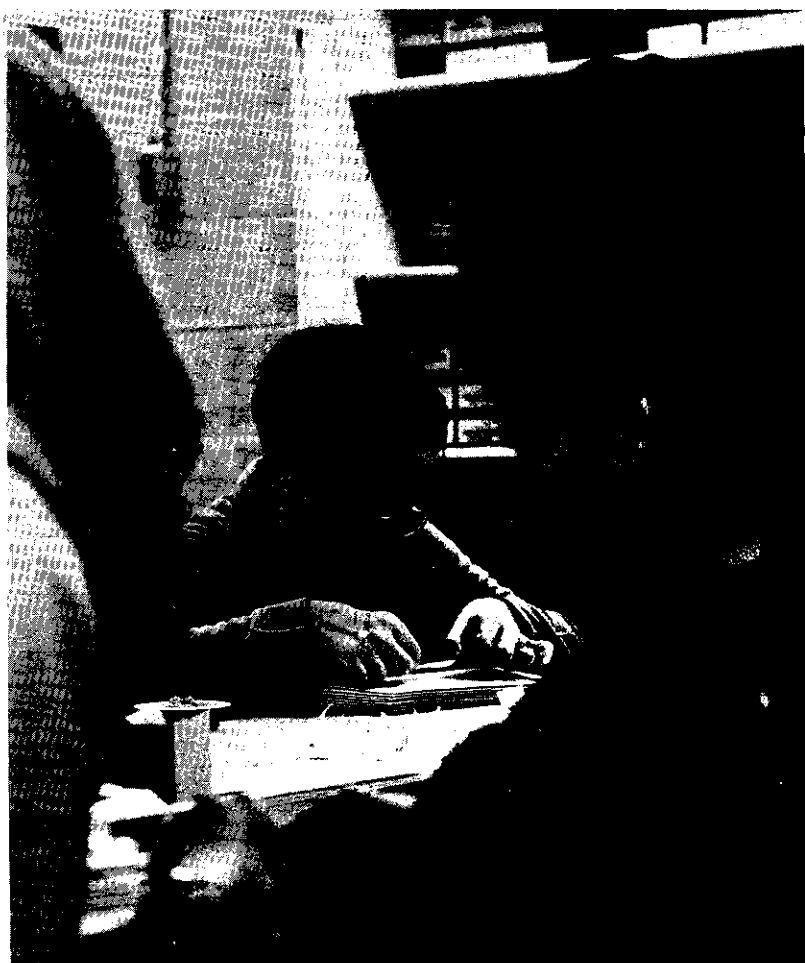
Even as late as the 1700's professional people had some striking misconceptions. It was rather widely held, for instance, that "once retarded, always retarded," implying that there was no help for these people and that the main cause of mental retardation was heredity.

It wasn't until the 19th century that people like the Frenchmen Jean Marc Itard and Edward Sequin began to study and work with mentally deficient persons in a systematic and scientific way. Another pioneer working with the retarded was the famous Deteressa Maria Montessori, whose ideas continue to be an influence in programs for the retarded.

Improved care for the retarded in America had some slow beginnings with the establishment of the first state school in Massachusetts in 1850. By the early 1900's a network of this kind of residential center had been established in all but four states. Because of political changes, administrative problems and lack of trained personnel, these large state schools in many cases even today can give little more than custodial care to most, with some good training programs for a select few.

The greatest strides toward meeting the needs of these people have taken place in the past decade. Perhaps more progress has been made in those ten years than in the previous four decades combined. Such things as state legislation for providing educational opportunity for all retardates in every community in some states; building new, smaller residential short-term training centers; development of sheltered workshops; day activity centers; day care centers; and a national committee of experts to make annual assessments of progress and further needs are just some of the great things that are now happening.

The church is beginning to see its responsibility also. But we are only in the beginning stages and often lagging behind secular organizations.



New Hope for the Retarded in America and New Trends

This is a new day for the mentally handicapped. In recent years there has been progress. There are far-reaching plans to expand the scope of services in every state of the union. An example of the growing concern and action is the increasing number of education classes being developed.

Special Education Classes
for the Mentally Retarded
From the book—Mental Retardation by Harold Love

Year	Number of Classes for EDUCABLE	Number of Pupils Enrolled EDUCABLE
1953		108,903
1958		201,443
1963	22,500	363,000
1964	26,415	406,000
1965	31,277	459,442
1966	36,851	519,422
1967	43,525	587,000

Year	Number of Classes for TRAINABLE	Number of Pupils Enrolled TRAINABLE
1953		4,659
1958		16,779
1963	2,500	30,000
1964	3,490	40,035
1965	4,678	52,341
1966	6,329	68,322
1967	8,522	89,252

Another indication of the increasing amount of concern and help for these people is the establishment of many diagnostic clinics. Since diagnosis and evaluation are the first step before any treatment or educational program can be prescribed, the following chart shows the satisfying growth in the number of such service centers.

Diagnostic Clinics for Mental Retardation

Year	Number of Clinics	No. of Children Served
1950	0	0
1955	33	10,000
1959	70	20,000
1963	110	42,000
1964	139	45,000
1965	147	47,000
1966	191	58,000

To make certain that programs progress beyond plans and good intentions, in some states some very specific legislation has been passed spelling out a timetable when special education programs must be established in every local school district. As such legislation is passed in each state, the trend to bring care, treatment, and education programs to local communities where the retardates live will be greatly enhanced. Not only will this be more beneficial to most retarded people and their families, but really it may prove to be even more economical than sending them to large state and private institutions for care, in many cases for life. In the present plan in many communities these special people can now receive training to fit their needs while they are able to live in their own homes. This new trend is of benefit not only for those retarded persons still living at home, but also for those who have lived in overcrowded and large state institutions. Hundreds, and even thousands, of retarded persons (some of whom have been confined to a state institution for 30 years) are being released and sent back to live in their home communities, either in parental homes or small private residential facilities.

New doors into the labor market are also being opened to the retarded members of our society. More and more jobs suited to their capabilities are being opened to people who may be deficient in mental capacity but perfectly capable of carrying a full work load which does not require great mental power. The federal government is providing a good example by including retarded persons in its employ where it is feasible. According to the 1969 report by the President's Committee on Mental Retardation, the U.S. Civil Service Commission has written agreements with 42 federal departments and agencies to employ the mentally retarded. In 1969 there were 5,784 mentally retarded persons employed by the federal government in 66 different job classifications such as messenger, supply clerk, janitor, elevator operator, etc.

Truly, these are new and better days for retarded people.

Private Organizations Serving Retarded Persons

The many good things happening for the benefit of our retarded people are not coming to pass by chance. There have been concerned people working very hard. Since the days when John F. Kennedy served as president of this country and did many things personally to promote better opportunities for retarded persons, thousands of people have banded together into various community, state, and national organizations and associations to promote the welfare of those who are classified as being mentally deficient.

One such organization, whose membership includes a large number of parents of retarded persons, is the National Association for Retarded Children. This association promotes the welfare of the mentally retarded of all ages by advancement of research, treatment, services, facilities, and public understanding of the problem. It was founded in 1950 and today, with member associations in all 50 states, has a total of more than 1,375 affiliated local and state associations. Many pieces of legislation have been initiated and supported by the members of this organization which, when signed into law, have provided long-awaited opportunity for retarded people.

NARC has become a symbol of unity of parents, friends, neighbors, community leaders and professionals, all banded together to shape a new world and a new climate of acceptance for all retarded persons everywhere. This association of people is committed to the philosophy that every mentally retarded child and adult has a right to be understood, respected and helped regardless of his age, degree of retardation, economic status, race or creed.

Join today! You will feel satisfied in being a part of one of America's most dynamic voluntary organizations.

For more information write: National Association for Retarded
Children
420 Lexington Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10017

We can expect many more things from this group as the president of NARC, Mrs. Philip Elkin, indicated in her annual report in 1969 saying, "We've only started . . ." Your support offered to this and other volunteer organizations promoting the welfare of the mentally handicapped will give them an even stronger voice and strength for action.

The fact that membership in the National Association for Retarded Children grew from 5,000 in 1950 to 138,000 in 1969 seems to indicate that people are sensing that there is action in NARC, encouraging them to join the ranks of membership. Join the local ARC organization in your community. Your support and interest will mean much.

An exciting new affiliate of the NARC is the fast-growing Youth-NARC. This rather newly organized group grew in the past year from 6,000 members to more than 13,000. Members are young men and women between the ages of 13 and 25.

Projects sponsored by local chapters of this national organization include such activities as babysitting, tutoring, buddy programs, art contests, etc. Each local group also participates presently in the three national projects endorsed by Youth-NARC which are (a) training competitors for the nationwide Special Olympics for the retarded, (b) selling Flame of Hope candles made in sheltered workshops, and (c) distributing literature for the President's Committee on Mental Retardation.

If the rapid growth in just a few years of the existence of this youth association is any indicator of what to expect in the future from youth, we will be dazzled by the surge forward in meeting the needs that exist in this area of specialty. Encourage your sons and daughters to participate in this action organization. If there is no chapter of Youth-NARC in your community, perhaps you could assist the youth of your church to organize one soon.



Theological Perspective

It would be interesting to know people's theological thoughts when they are directly confronted with facing the challenges that surround the whole area of mental retardation. We can usually control ourselves from speaking about it, even when we are directly confronted, but we cannot avoid thinking on the matter. Perhaps every parent of a retardate has had theological thoughts, most of them ask theological questions, some of them cry out for answers, reasons and at last for an understanding of how God was, is or can be related to their situation in life.

When turning to their pastor or fellow Christian layman in these situations, parents are searching for specific answers. It is never easy to come up with answers to theological questions which arise in crisis situations. It is even more difficult in situations involving the family of a mentally deficient person because the crisis will, in most cases, never go away until death.

If anything at all of a profound nature can be said about the role of God in the area of the mentally retarded, it seems almost necessary to write a complete volume. There are no capsule scriptural references that can be quoted to solve, or even soothe for long, the pains of families in these circumstances.

Because of the limitation of space in this booklet it is not possible to do justice to this topic by expounding upon it. We want very definitely to call your attention to the fact that these thoughts are in the minds of the parents and other family members of a retarded person. In the words of Chaplain Robert Perske of the Kansas Neurological Institute, Topeka, Kansas, "When a person seeks to love and care for another human being who has been limited by a grim and irreversible case of mental retardation, some things can happen to what he believes about God and his creations."

It would be well for all of us when we are not under the pressure of finding answers related to specific cases of mental deficiency, to read articles on the subject, seeing how others have come to grips with it, after which we might attempt to find a theological view of mental retardation that we can accept and from which we can operate. When individual cases come to our attention we will be better prepared to be somewhat at ease in discussing the subject. It would, perhaps, be a very worthwhile topic for presentation and discussion at small group meetings or at a regular meeting of your organization. Some very worthwhile resources for personal reading or group discussion are available from National Association for Retarded Children, 420 Lexington Ave., New York, 10017:

An Attempt to Find an Adequate Theological View of Mental Retardation by Robert A. Perske

Ministry and Mental Retardation: The Effect on a Pastor's Theological Views by Robert A. Perske

The Pastoral Care and Counseling of Families of the Mentally Retarded
Robert A. Perske

(Also see Bibliography on page 38)



Suggestions for Involvement

Work on Attitudes

1. *by studying*
2. *by getting personally acquainted*

One thing each individual can do is to become better informed about mental retardation. It would help very much to accomplish this if several books from the bibliography listed in this booklet were purchased for your church library. This knowledge could be enhanced a great deal by the use of good films. There are many new and very good films available from local, state or national organizations free of charge. As people become informed, attitudes change, new insights develop and the desire to be of help grows.

Many people have been moved to serve the mentally retarded when they become personally acquainted with an individual retarded person. The satisfaction that comes from even one encounter with a retardate moves people to get more involved.

Survey Your Community

1. *to determine number of retarded persons living in your area*
2. *to record ages and types*
3. *to identify specific immediate and on-going need*

As indicated in the forepart of this booklet, it is not enough to know that you have 2, 5 or 9 retarded persons living in your community in order to decide what function or functions your organization or individuals from your organization will serve in helping to meet the special needs of these people. Perhaps a survey of your community has been made by another group and complete information is available. Check with the Public Welfare office, the local schools, etc. If it is found that a survey to gather specific facts has not been made, this would be a first step for your organization to take. If the population of your city is too large for your group to handle this task adequately, invite a neighboring organization to assist you.

To avoid duplication of efforts, decisions about services that your organization can offer should be made in consultation with the other organizations already offering some services. For example, if the local Legion Auxiliary is organized to assist with baby sitting and day care services for trainable retardates, the women of the church should take that into consideration, offering support and passing along information about it. The women of the church might then initiate and sponsor other services, such as a Christian education class, recreational programs, camping experiences, etc.

Develop a Community Resource Guide

It is a Christian service to people in need to offer a helping hand personally and to supply factual information about services available from other sources. At this point in history, services available to retardates and their families vary drastically from county to county and from state to state. Procedures for securing these services also vary.

One very feasible project for any organization would be to develop a community resources guide. Incorporated in such a guide could be information about existing day care centers: their rates, procedures or enrollment, age limits, etc. Such a guide would be most helpful when a family in the community is in the process of evaluating alternatives for their child. It could list local, county and state resources for other people such as the mentally ill, the blind, aging, etc.

A very important part of such a project would be to up-date the Resource Guide annually, as rates, phone numbers, personnel and even availability of certain services change drastically in a short period of time.

Sitting Services

Some retarded persons are an extremely heavy burden to their family. Those who are retarded to the extent that they need constant attention or supervision 24 hours each day create a burden that in many cases proves to be unbearable and may cause emotional upsets for the rest of the family.

In cases where profound mental deficiency is involved, the child can remain at home to experience the warm love that only parents and family can provide, if some people from outside the family share the burden. In such cases, baby sitting or person sitting services on a regularly scheduled basis without charge can salvage an entire family.

Hardly any family with such a retarded person will ever ask for this help. Where it is believed that such a service would be helpful and acceptable, the local ALCW could make this offer to the family. In some cases they might establish a time schedule so the mother could depend on being free at certain times.

Each such service would have to be set up to meet the local circumstances. In some cases it might be necessary to provide the service in the home of the retardate because of physical health needs. In other cases it would be of benefit to the retardate to have experiences in different surroundings, whether they be in the church parlors or in the sitter's home. It would be well for those who involve themselves in such a sitting project to be instructed together by the mother and/or some other person experienced in caring for such persons.

One camp counselor, exhausted after "babysitting" for a hyper-active retarded boy for one week at camp said, "I can't even imagine what just this one week of freedom must mean to Joe's mother. I am exhausted after just this one week of watching him in the daytime. His parents do this day and night 52 weeks each year."

Day Care

Special needs, such as medication and other related expenses, in many cases make it necessary for both the father and mother to work. There are retarded persons, both children and adults, who can live at home if they can be supervised and cared for 8 hours a day, 5 days per week while the parents are at work. A real service would be provided if the church, using its facilities, could provide a day care program for them. Such a program could be developed with volunteer help, however in many places such programs are in existence through the church providing the physical facilities (such as a portion of their educational unit) while the state or county provides the funds necessary for hiring personnel.

If such services would be needed and desired in your community, guidance for developing such projects can be secured from most county or state welfare offices.

Day Activity Center

Day activity centers are in many ways very similar to day care programs. In addition to caring for the retardate for a given number of hours each week, day activity centers are designed to assist in stimulating and training retarded persons who cannot attend public school classes or other facilities because of age, mental ability or behavioral traits. The primary reason for establishing a day care activity center would not be to accommodate the needs of parents and family, but to provide for the growth and development of the retardate.

This type of program is not available in many communities, mainly because of lack of space in the public schools and in other public facilities. Many are in operation because churches have offered their facilities and serve as the sponsoring group through which state funds can be channeled to hire personnel and buy the needed materials.

Some goals of these programs are:

1. to provide constructive and meaningful use of time,
2. to provide a growing experience for the retardate,
3. to assist social adjustment,
4. to broaden the scope of experience,
5. to better evaluate the potential of each individual and assist in attaining it,
6. to free parents from constant care of the retarded.

To assist families with retardates, public officials in some communities are desperately looking for sponsors for day activity centers. You need not be professionally trained for working with retarded persons in order to qualify for sponsoring such a service. If you have the vacant space in your church facilities during the 5 day work week, why not consider this as a project for your organization if such a need exists in your community.

Sheltered Workshop

Generally speaking, retarded people are no more lazy than normal people. Many of them work every day. Many more of them would like to have jobs. While a good many are trained to hold jobs in the outside world and be completely or almost completely independent, others can do work and earn enough to partially support themselves if they have the proper supervision.

It is even economically better to have a retardate in a workshop earning a little while doing something constructive under the supervision of paid personnel rather than to be confined to an institution where it is also necessary to have paid personnel to supervise them as they do things there less constructive and satisfying.

Through local community efforts, along with grants of funds from state and federal government, many sheltered workshops are now in operation. Retarded people, who in many cases in their present level of functioning could not find employment in the open market, are working in these shops packaging materials, assembling parts, doing light manufacturing, laundry work, etc. Most wages are paid on a piece work basis. At these jobs they can earn according to their capability.

There is a need for many more sheltered workshops for retarded people. While your ALCW perhaps cannot build and staff such a facility, they can initiate and organize community action to bring one into existence.

Social Functions

A facility sought for and needed in almost every community is the teen center. These facilities are frequently started, but come and go as problems arise and proper supervision may be lacking. There is also a great demand for a meeting place for senior citizens. This is quite natural since man is a social being and has a desire to interact with other humans just for the fun of it.

Retarded persons are people, too. They have the same need and desire to interact with other people.

Even if your community does have a teen center and a social program for the senior citizens, very likely the needs and desires of retarded persons are not met in social functions designed for "normal" youth, where

the games and activities would be too complicated for the retardate to be able to compete on equal basis.

There is also the danger that some of the teens would hesitate to participate with the retardates because of lack of understanding; however, this would still register as rejection in the mind of the retarded person. And even worse, it would be possible that the retardate would be teased, made fun of, joked about, or even led into inappropriate behavior.

While some retardates can participate in some parts of social functions of the normal population, most would benefit a great deal more and feel better about attending social functions that are planned with their specific needs in mind. This would be especially true of trainable retardates of all ages.

Your organization might choose to provide some of the following social functions on a regular basis at your church facilities or elsewhere:

1. Movie night—showing cartoons, films with music, animal stories, etc.
2. Singspiration—with games and fellowship
3. Entertainment by a band followed by fellowship and refreshments
4. A hayride
5. Fishing trip
6. Nature hunt
7. Sliding party
8. Holiday parties
9. Birthday parties

Promote Legislation

Under the Constitution of the United States all people are assured of equal rights of life, liberty, etc. Putting those things into practice does not happen as automatically as saying or writing the words. Many things done for retarded people are looked upon as acts of charity rather than deserved services. An ardent worker for improving the conditions for retarded persons in Connecticut said this: "The biggest hurdle we had to overcome was the 'Charity-syndrome,' the old 'Let's-take-care-of-these-dear-children-because-it's-a-nice-thing-to-do' and that sort of talk. We don't hear that around here much anymore, but it didn't disappear overnight just by accident. For a lot of years a number of dedicated people have worked hard petitioning and pleading and making nuisances of themselves at every level of government and in the schools and the churches.

A goodly number of pieces of legislation have been passed in the last two decades to assist in implementing what is guaranteed in the constitution. In some states legislation has made it possible to:

1. provide community day centers,
2. require public school classes in every community for the retarded,
3. establish regional diagnostic clinics,
4. build sheltered workshops,
5. train institutional staff,
6. improve institutional facilities.

Improvements in programs for retarded people have come about the hard way—many of them through government legislation.

Be alert to new legislative bills that could bring about rights for the retarded that would be more equal to their “normal” counterparts. Support such legislation and gather support from your neighbors.

Consider Employment in an Institution

There is an extreme shortage of trained and capable persons to work with the mentally retarded. If possible you might be able to accept employment in a salaried position in an institution for the mentally retarded.

There are too few physicians, nurses, social workers and psychologists to give needed diagnostic and evaluation services. There are too few teachers trained to work with the retarded in the schools; too few therapists to work with them in community and residential care programs. Less heard about, but equally critical, there are too few attendants and cottage parents. Every kind of worker with the retarded is in short supply.

Serve as a Volunteer

There are over 400 state and private institutions caring for an estimated 250,000 retarded people. It is impossible for these institutions to hire enough people to meet all their needs. Therefore volunteers are needed to help. If you live near such an institution, you are needed.

There are so many opportunities available at most institutions that a program can be set up with you to meet any reasonable time schedule.

Volunteers help residents to do such things as:

1. play games
2. write letters to loved ones
3. feed the more handicapped
4. go for hikes or walks
5. sing
6. read books
7. listen to records
8. visit the sick and shut-ins.

At first thought you may hesitate to involve yourself as a volunteer in an institution saying, “I wouldn’t know what to do.” Almost every institution thoroughly prepares volunteers in an orientation program, assigning them to a regular task of mutual choice.

Many Lutherans are already involved in such programs. One state volunteer coordinator said that in that state far more Lutherans are involved as volunteers than people of other faiths.

Foster Grandparent Program

You will be of double service if you encourage and assist the aging members of your organization to become involved in the Foster Grandparent Program. Under a program funded by the Office of Economic Opportunity and the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, men and women over 60 years of age with an income of \$1,600 or less, if single, or under \$2,000, if married, are paid on an hourly wage basis to spend time helping retardates in institutional settings.

This program not only provides a warm and helpful grandparent relationship to the retardate, but also provides a refreshing outlet for the grandparent who in this task feels needed and useful while at the same time earning a few dollars.

The program has proven to be a great success in many situations so that it has now expanded into 31 states. Officials of the Federal government suggest that it be extended even farther.

- Check on the existence of such a program in your area.
- Encourage and help those who meet age and income requirements to become involved.
- Assist them to be involved by providing and/or arranging for transportation.

Group Volunteer Projects

Institutions like very much to have individuals volunteer to do specific things for their residents on a regularly scheduled basis. They also welcome volunteers who find it convenient to come as a group, perhaps on a less frequent basis to sponsor a Christmas party, Halloween party, etc. for a ward or a group of retardates. Some ALCW groups have "adopted" a certain ward, and each year they sponsor a number of events for "their" ward.

Indirect Volunteer Projects

Some of the elderly members of your organization may feel that because of their age, or for some other reason, they cannot go to the institution on a regular basis, or even with the group periodically. There are opportunities for service available to them also. In consultation with the staff at the institution it may be possible to "adopt" an individual retarded child to whom post cards, birthday cards, and other little tokens of affection could be sent. Many institutionalized retardates go away from every mail call empty handed because they have no relatives or friends who keep in regular contact.

Provide Christian Education Opportunities

The church has far too few Christian education opportunities for retarded people! It could be a project of your organization to develop such a program in your community. Because of the limited number of retarded persons found in a given community, it may be necessary and desirable to do this on an inter-denominational basis. But such a project needs a convener—you be that convener.

- Write for information on how to develop such a program.
- Review student and teacher materials now available.
- Plan for transportation to these class sessions.
- Invite professional workers in special education to assist you in your planning.
- Start now!

Chaplain Vincent Mostrom of Woodward, Iowa says, "If the needs of retarded persons are seriously considered, and Christian training programs designed in terms of those needs and their capacities, such programs can be highly significant to them at *all* levels of retardation."

(For more help in developing Sunday school or Week Day church school classes for retarded people write the Division of Parish Education, 422 S. 5th Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415.)

Youth Service Corps

A growing youth movement, this one primarily within the American Lutheran Church, is a full-time summer volunteer program. High school juniors and seniors spend the summer working full time with retarded people in state and private institutions without pay. While they work they are learning about the needs and potential of the retarded and have opportunity to test personal aptitudes, thus aiding in career decisions before entering their college training. Speaking at the close of such a summer of work, one 17-year-old service corps worker said, "This has been the best year of my life. I think I really learned to love and be loved by these kids. I now know for sure that I want to be a special education teacher. I will know what course to pursue in college."

(For more information about Youth Service Corps opportunities in your area write to the Youth Department, ALC, 422 S. 5th Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415.)

Camping

In recent years many opportunities have opened up in camping for the retarded. A camping experience is very important to the retarded person. For many it is their first experience away from home. Especially for those who are not in a school program, camping provides a needed exposure to

group living and an exercise of social behavior. A week at camp is not only good for the retardate, but perhaps even more so for his parents and family. They are free for that one week from the need to watch and care for this member of their family who requires such constant attention.

Local ALCW organizations can assist with the camping program.

1. Annually provide the camp fee for one or more retarded persons from your community.

This is an important assist, since fees for retardates are much higher than the usual fee because such a camp requires the hiring of more counselors and other personnel. The fee for one week of camping for the retarded generally runs from \$40-\$60 with some even higher.

2. Help establish more camping opportunities in your area.
3. Promote a day camp for the retarded in your community and assist with the program.
4. If there are church or private camp grounds in your area which conduct camp periods for the retarded, your organization could help much by providing part-time volunteer help. On a rotating schedule some women could spend part of a day helping with laundry, feeding time, swimming periods and night watch. It is exhausting for camp counselors to be on the alert 24 hours a day. Especially in camps for trainable retardates, the staff would welcome occasional relief which volunteers could supply.

Promote Jobs

Since retarded people cannot keep up with normal people, many people think they are not able to do anything. This is not true.

Hire the retarded who live in your community for jobs they are capable of doing. Many people with mental capacities far from normal have proven to be very capable workers at tasks for which they are suited and trained. For example, the nearly 5,000 mentally retarded workers in 40 Federal government agencies receive a higher percentage of outstanding performance ratings than any other government workers.

A national food service company employing retarded workers for more than 5 years found in a comparative performance study that retarded workers stay in their jobs over twice as long, do their jobs well three times as often, and get along with co-workers far better than non-retarded workers.

Still another survey showed that on the average they are tardy for work fewer times than other people and take off fewer sick days.

Assist the retarded to find jobs.

Assist Church-Related Institutions

The Lutheran Church through private donations, combined with grants from government agencies, operates a number of residential centers for retarded persons. They deserve consideration when they periodically find it necessary to solicit for capital funds.

There will always be a need for long-term residential care for some retardates. When parents become old or die, leaving a severely or profoundly retarded son or daughter, a place to live must be provided. In other cases where retardation is coupled with other severe physical handi-

Name & Location	Affiliation
1. <i>Bethesda Lutheran Home</i> 700 Hoffman Drive Watertown, Wis. 53094	LC-MS; WELS
2. <i>The Bethpage Mission</i> Axtell, Neb. 68924	LCA
3. <i>Filling Memorial Home of Mercy</i> R.R. #5 Napoleon, Ohio 43545	ALC
4. <i>The Good Shepherd Lutheran Home of the West</i> Route 1, Box 17 Terra Bella, Calif. 93270	LC-MS
5. <i>Lake Park—Wild Rice Children's Home</i> (Luth. Soc. Service of Minn.) Box 192 Fergus Falls, Minn. 56537	ALC; LCA LC-MS
6. <i>Luther Home of Mercy</i> 706 Main Street Williston, Ohio 43408	ALC
7. <i>Martin Luther Home & School</i> 804 S. 12th St. Beatrice, Neb. 68310	ALC
8. <i>Ken-Crest Centers for Exceptional Persons</i> Mont Clare, Penna. 19453	LCA
9. <i>Svee Rehabilitation Center</i> (Luth. Soc. Service of N. D.) 1307 11th Street S. Fargo, N. D. 58101	ALC; LCA LC-MS
10. <i>Vasa Lutheran Children's Home</i> (Luth. Soc. Service of Minn.) Route #2 Red Wing, Minn. 55066	ALC; LCA LC-MS

caps, some of the homes listed below can best serve the needs of such a family.

Besides the need for building and operating funds, some of the residential centers have regular ingatherings for food, clothing and other personal items. Martin Luther Home and School of Beatrice, Nebraska, for instance, conducts an annual ingathering each fall. Churches in several surrounding states participate.

Check directly with our church-sponsored residential centers listed below to learn about ways you can help them.

Capacity	Type of Service
670 Children & Adults	Residential and extended Care with a general variety of training and treatment programs including sheltered workshop opportunities.
55 Children & Adults	Residential and extended care. Sheltered workshop.
30 Children 25 Adults	Residential care for brain damaged non-ambulatory children. Residential Care for adults.
165 Children & Adults	Residential Care with education and recreation programs. Workshop and activity center.
25 Children	Diagnostic evaluation residential care. Three month in-residence evaluation Residential treatment programs.
85 Adults 5 Children	Residential and nursing care Chaplaincy program.
136 Children	Residential care with educational programs. Day care and vocational program.
145 Children	Residential care. Educational and therapy programs including speech and recreation, 5 day care centers.
22 Youth & Adult Men Ages 16-35	Half-way house Social case work. Vocational training and job placement
52 Children	Residential Care with educational, recreation, and work training programs.

Involve Retarded People in Worship

SINGING AND WORSHIP

Most worship services are designed primarily with "normal" people in mind. It would not be appropriate to change the service drastically just to fit the capabilities of a few people with special needs. However, making a few adjustments in the service and offering a little special help to the retarded could make the worship services a richer experience for all concerned.

Whoever said that in order to sing before a group you have to be able to read, carry a tune perfectly, and sing in harmony? I have seen more people moved spiritually by hearing a blind retarded boy sing about what Jesus means to him than when a professionally trained church choir sings about the same thing. It could be a very dynamic project of some of the members of your organization to teach songs to some of the retardates in your community and arrange for and assist them in singing at regular worship services in your church. Many retardates would like very much to be involved in this way. You will be surprised at the dimension this can add to your worship experience.

BANNERS

Banners are good vehicles for displaying a message in eye-catching ways. They also add beauty to the church or wherever they might be used. Carrying banners to the front of the church during the processional hymn is already a part of the worship service in many congregations. The carrying and posting of the banners is a task that could be done by retarded persons. They would feel proud and involved if this task were given to them. Many could be trained to recite a short Bible verse or appropriate poems or statements related to the message of the banner being posted. Perhaps the making of the banners could be a weekly project for a Christian education class for retardates.

OFFERINGS

In most worship services we receive and dedicate primarily one type of offering—money. Some retarded people, as well as many other people in our congregations, are not able to work enough to give an amount of money that would make them feel they are contributing what they would like. Discuss with your pastor the possibility of having an offering table in the front of your church where retardates, perhaps some elderly unemployed people and others could bring gifts they made, or built, or raised. A retarded girl might be able to make beautiful things with a crochet needle. She would feel that she would be participating as much in the work of the church if she could give a pair of crocheted

slippers as an offering as someone else who might put \$2 in the offering plate. If the crocheted slippers were placed on the offering table on Sunday morning the retarded girl would feel equally a part of the giving congregation. Her gift could be distributed by the pastor, deacon, or designated person to a proper place such as a shut-in, someone in the hospital, nursing home, etc.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation to and from church services is a problem for many retarded persons. As described in another section of this book it is a growing trend in America to move the more capable residents out of the large state institutions back into the community. When they return to the community, many of them move into smaller privately operated homes or sheltered settings where at least some part-time supervision is available as needed. Such living quarters may be some distance from a Lutheran church, and therefore the people need assistance in traveling to church functions. In other communities a local ALCW may want to purchase or rent a bus each week to transport many of the residents of such sheltered living centers to worship services. It is true, worship services can be—and are—conducted at those homes, but this is not the same as being able to go to church and worship with the rest of the community. Is there such a home for the retarded, nursing home or county home in your community where there are people who would come to church every Sunday if they had transportation? What a pity for this not to happen to them and to us in a day when we have such an abundance of vehicles.

Assist the Handicapped to Do Things for Others

While most of the space in this booklet is devoted to telling how you and your group can help retarded people, we want to avoid building a picture in your mind that the retarded are primarily objects of our charity. So much of their life is spent receiving. This is not by their own design but rather this pattern is forced upon them as they are rejected, restricted, repressed, etc. by the more capable members of society. In their restricted environment in residential centers we see them helping each other. They are at times found quarreling about who can have the privilege of pushing someone's wheel chair, helping a younger friend, and running errands.

Much healthy growth takes place when a human being can do something for others. Self-worth and a sense of accomplishment is more deeply felt when energy is spent in doing something good for someone else.

In everything you plan to do for retarded people, avoid making them objects of your charity. Try very hard to offer a balance of help and opportunities for them to be helpful.

Space only allows us to describe briefly several kinds of projects which your group could develop and supervise which would allow retarded people to be on the giving end of life.

VISITATION

Many retardates like to talk. With some supervision they perform beautifully in visiting elderly people in nursing homes or shut-ins in the community. Not being inhibited by a pressure to be sophisticated, they often express themselves so naturally that one cannot help but know they are speaking from the heart. It is a very enjoyable experience to take 2 or 3 retarded children to the nursing home to visit the aged, and as they go from room to room to have them sing several songs or recite a cheery jingle poem which they can learn in their special Sunday school class.

You can get double mileage from your efforts! Many groups already have regular shut-in visitation schedules. Plan to take several retardates visiting with you and allow them to serve God and man in this way also.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Assist a group of retarded people to plant a flower garden in the town park, at the church, or in front of the nursing home. To help them to feel this kind of project is truly their own, during the winter they could be helped in a paper drive or a similar small fund-raising project where they can do most of the work and with the proceeds buy seeds and plants. You will find it very gratifying to see them take pride in "their thing" and develop a real feeling of self-worth.

GIFTS

Perhaps part of an evening social function planned for their enjoyment could be spent in making some small gift items for other people. Letter openers, napkin holders, door stops, or hundreds of other small, simple to make items could be made to be given on the offering table on Sunday morning and distributed during visitations of the sick and shut-ins.

CHURCH SERVICE PROJECTS

In consultation with the pastor, perhaps some routine tasks at the church could be assigned to an individual retardate in the community who could do such things under the supervision of a member of the ALCW or church secretary. Such jobs as folding bulletins, stapling reports or newsletters, stuffing envelopes for periodic congregational

mailings, setting up and taking down chairs in the educational unit, etc. can be assigned in reasonable amounts as Christian service projects for which they would not be paid. Most retardates will not be elected to serve as a deacon or trustee, teach Sunday school, or serve as an auxiliary officer. Therefore, assigning them physical tasks in a proper proportion gives them an opportunity to serve their church and thus feel more a part of it just as other members do when volunteering their time in leadership capacities.

Special Local Projects

While most of the 6½ million retarded people in America live in their community, we still face the fact that 250,000 of them live in institutions. Many of these institutions are very large with as many as three and four thousand residents. These large institutions are operated by the state and are funded by tax dollars. With so many to care for, it is often difficult to find funds to hire help or buy materials that are needed for more than bare necessities.

In most instances chaplains are hired by the state to supervise the spiritual care of the residents on a non-denominational basis. But to provide religious and moral training they need materials. Money is not available to buy materials for each of the retardates in his charge. Therefore a difficult task is made even more difficult because he must gather old left-over Sunday school materials designed for normal children and adapt them the best he can to their level of understanding.

A very important service could be provided by local ALCW groups if they would send sufficient funds annually to the chaplain at one of their state or private institutions so that he could buy needed Sunday school materials.



Check List

This check list will help you to decide how your local ALCW will involve itself in meeting the needs of retarded people. After careful and prayerful consideration, please check those projects your group chooses to do within the next year.

Sign and return the list to the Director of Stewardship, ALCW, 422 S. 5th Street, Minneapolis, Minn. 55415.

Projects

- ☐ Become better acquainted with the needs and potential of retarded people through reading or book reviews at meetings.
- ☐ Select a retarded person with whom to become personally acquainted.
- ☐ Invite a speaker such as a physician, social worker, special education teacher, or chaplain to an organizational meeting to discuss mental retardation.
- ☐ Show films on the subject.
- ☐ Order several books from the bibliography for the church library.
- ☐ Conduct a thorough survey of your community to discover the number of retardates living there, listing ages, types, problems, and services needed.
- ☐ Develop a local resources guide listing available services.
- ☐ Establish a "sitting service" for retarded people and their families.
- ☐ Provide space in your church or elsewhere for a day care project and support such projects with volunteer assistance.
- ☐ Provide space in your church or elsewhere for a day activity program and support such programs with volunteer assistance.
- ☐ Promote the development of a community sheltered workshop to provide work for the retarded.
- ☐ Make available regularly scheduled social functions for retarded persons.

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- ☐ Help initiate and promote local, state, and national legislation to provide for better care and training for the retarded.
 - ☐ Serve as an individual volunteer in a state or private institution.
 - ☐ Enter the volunteer program of an institution as a group going periodically to visit or provide for parties and other functions.
 - ☐ Assist members of your ALCW to become involved in the Foster Grandparent Program.
 - ☐ Assist in developing community-wide Christian education classes.
 - ☐ Join local organizations which are working for the retarded.
 - ☐ Encourage youth to be involved in service to the retarded through such organizations as Youth ARC and Youth Service Corps.
 - ☐ Help retarded people attend camp by providing camp fees.
 - ☐ Develop a summer day camp program for the retarded in your community.
 - ☐ Hire the retarded for jobs they can do and assist in finding jobs for them.
 - ☐ Become acquainted with our church institutions that serve retarded persons and support their work.
 - ☐ Become involved in helping the retarded participate in regular worship services by providing transportation and training them to participate in the services.
 - ☐ Give guidance and supervision to retarded persons as they participate in service projects.
 - ☐ Provide funds to institutions in your area or state to purchase Christian training materials.

Name _____

Address _____

Bibliography

BORGARDUS, LADONNA *Christian Education for Retarded Children and Youth*. \$1.25, 1963; Abingdon Press, 201 8th Avenue South, Nashville, Tennessee. (108 pages)

A manual prepared to assist church leaders on programs for the retarded. Suggests how to plan new programs and improve programs already in existence. It deals primarily with the churches' role in religious education for children and youth.

BUCK, PEARL S. *The Child Who Never Grew*. The John Day Company, 62 West 45th Street, New York 19, New York.

This well-known author tells her personal story of what happened when she was confronted with mental retardation in her own daughter.

GINCLEN, D. R. AND STILES, WINIFRED E. *Music Activities for Retarded Children*. 1965; Abingdon Press, Nashville, Tennessee. (140 pages) \$2.95.

A handbook to assist parents and teachers in initiating a developmental beginning music program for retarded children with mental ages from 3 to 8 years. Can be used with trainable retarded persons of all ages and with educable retarded children to about age 12. The handbook is planned to assist growth and development in language skills, motor and muscular skills, social skills and adjustments, and general mental health. Rhythm, fun, music, but selection of religious music is limited and abstract.

H. R. HAHN AND W. H. RAASCH. *Helping the Retarded to Know God*, Concordia Publishing House, 3558 S. Jefferson Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63118. Pupils text \$1.95; Teachers Manual \$1.95.

A practical study text designed specifically to meet the need for qualified teachers of special Christian education classes. Its 10 chapters give the reader a set of basic understandings so he can minister in the best possible way to this heretofore much neglected group.

JUNKER, KAREN. *The Child In the Glass Ball*. Abingdon Press, Nashville, Tennessee. \$4.00.

Mrs. Junker in a remarkably honest way has been able to write about her struggles as a parent of two defective children.

KIRK, SAMUEL; KARNES, MERLY B.; KIRK, WINIFRED. *You and Your Retarded Child*. 1955. The Macmillan Company, New York.

A sound, practical guide, written in nontechnical language, with

down-to-earth suggestions. It is written for (1) parents of retarded children; (2) doctors, pastors, social workers, educators, or anyone called upon to advise parents; and (3) relatives and friends. The authors are concerned with a total program for the retarded in the community. In the appendix are listed the names and addresses of public and private residential schools and homes for the retarded in the United States.

PETERSON, DOROTHY. *Sing, Look, Do*. 1965; Standard, Chicago, Illinois.

Simple songs including action songs for the mentally retarded. This listing compiled and prepared by the author after a number of years of teaching music to institutionalized children who are mentally retarded.

PETERSON, SIGURD D. *Retarded Children: God's Children*. 1960; The Westminster Press, Philadelphia, Penna. (156 pages) \$3.00.

Chaplain Peterson served as a Psychiatric Chaplain at Parsons State Hospital and Training Center, Parsons, Kansas, an institution for 600 retardates between the ages of 6 and 21. His chapters on "Religious Responses," "Religious Needs," "A Theology," and "Implications" are valuable for reading and study by every church worker serving the mentally retarded.

ROGERS, DALE EVANS. *Angel Unaware*. Fleming H. Revell Co.; Westwood, New Jersey.

This story tells of the brief life of little Robin Elizabeth Rogers, daughter of the cowboy star and his wife, Dale Evans. It is told from the perspective of the child. Two days after her death, while the mother was gazing at her portrait, the Scripture text "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers; for thereby some have entertained angels unawares" flashed into her mind.

STUBBLEFIELD, HAROLD. *The Church's Ministry In Mental Retardation*. 1965; Boardman Press, Nashville, Tennessee. (147 pages) \$4.00.

Furnishes basic guidelines and specific suggestions for developing local church ministries to retarded persons and their families. Perspective is broad but well focused on specific types of ministry.

Pamphlets and Periodicals

Children Limited. \$1.00 per year; National Association for Retarded Children, Inc., 420 Lexington Avenue, New York City 10017.

Bimonthly newspaper of the NARC, reports current advances and news.

Providing a Program of Christian Education for the Mentally Retarded, Bulletin #820 #9009, Commission on Services to the Mentally Retarded, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, 210 N. Broadway, St. Louis, Missouri 63102. 20c.

Suggestions regarding a program of Christian Education for children who require specialized teaching because of mental retardation.

How Retarded Children Can Be Helped. HART, EVELYN. 1959; Public Affairs Committee, 22 E. 38th Street, New York 10016. (30 pages) 25c

Public Affairs Pamphlet No. 288: A brief introduction to the nature of mental retardation and brief description of some helpful services.

The Three R's for the Retarded, Chamberlain, Naomi H. and Moss, Dorothy. National Association for Retarded Children, Inc., New York, N.Y. (48 pages)

This pamphlet contains practical and down-to-earth suggestions for helping and teaching the young retarded child at home with eating, dressing, speech development, and social maturation.

Bringing the Mentally Retarded to Their Savior. Bethesda Lutheran Home, Box 296, Watertown, Wisconsin. (16 pages) single copy free. Describes the role of the church and offers information on who shall teach, the necessary material to be used as well as daily schedules for the retarded in special classes.

Curriculum Materials

Adventures in Christian Living and Learning, National Council of Churches Committee #8, New York, N.Y., 1969. \$10.00 for each level. A two-part series of curriculum resources for use with trainable retarded children and youth. Three chronological age levels, each of which includes teacher's guide, pupils' materials, teaching picture set, plan book and a phonograph record.

Bible Lessons for Special Classes, Concordia Publishing House, 3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, Missouri 63118, 1957 and 1969, \$1.00 per packet.

Series 1—Bible Stories (Children)—8 packets, each of which provides lessons for 12 or more sessions. Materials are assembled in individual packets, one for each child and teacher in the class. Packets contain 6 large Bible story leaflets and 6 related conduct stories. A teachers guide with suggestions for parents and teachers is also included in every packet.

Series II—The Christian Faith (age 16 years and older)—8 packets, each of which provides materials for 12 sessions. Each packet contains stories, life-related illustrations, prayers and songs.

Wonder-Full, Arline M. Albright and Lois A. Schoenfeld, Milwaukee County Association for Retarded Children, 1426 W. State Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 109 pp., 1959, \$3.00.
An in-service teacher training guide.

Wonder-Full Activity Packet, Arline M. Albright and Lois A. Schoenfeld, Milwaukee County Association for Retarded Children, 1426 West State Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1959, 75c.
Teaching material with instructions for the child's use.

Foundation Lesson Series, Arline M. Albright and Lois A. Schoenfeld, Milwaukee County Association for Retarded Children, 1426 West State Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1959, \$1.50 per set.
Teacher material to accompany *Wonder-Full*.

Audio-Visuals

CHRIST'S LOVE ENFOLDS ALL CHILDREN—Board of Parish Education, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, 210 N. Broadway, St. Louis, Missouri 63102. 51 frames 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ rpm recording color. Rental \$3.50.

Available from Audio-visual Aids Service, Concordia Publishing House, 3558 So. Jefferson, St. Louis, Missouri 63118.

A sound-filmstrip on the organization of Bible classes for the mentally retarded.

ETERNAL CHILDREN—Produced by the National Film Board of Canada. 16mm. 28 minutes. B & W Rental—\$7.50.

Available from International Film Bureau, Inc. 332 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago 4, Illinois.

This is a sad, moving and yet hopeful film which presents an intimate study of the special problems of retarded children. Care and training methods are shown. These are children who through heredity, brain injury, or various other causes aren't equipped to keep pace in a competitive world.

INTO THE LIGHT. Produced and available from Children's Development Center, 3612 Cedar Springs, Dallas, Texas. 16mm. 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ minutes. color. Rental—\$10.00.

Designed particularly for public groups, parent and church groups as an informative service, this film describes the Dallas community

school program for trainable retarded children. Such aspects of the program as parent interviews with physicians, explanation of retardation, and activities within the school are pictured.

TUESDAY'S CHILD. Produced and available from National Association for Retarded Children, 420 Lexington Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10017. 16mm. 14 minutes. B&W. Rental—\$3.50.

This film presents the general problems of retardation in a community where there are no facilities for special education.

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SHADOW, 16mm. sound, color, 28 minutes, (won the National Emmy as the most outstanding documentary of the year, 1968). Beautifully depicts educational procedures at St. Michael Special School. Produced by T. V. Station WWL, New Orleans, Louisiana. For further information write: Sister M. Lillian, S.S. N.D., Directress of N. O. Archdiocesan Department of Special Services, 1522 Chippewa Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130.

Agencies Dealing with Mentally Retarded Persons

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION ON MENTAL DEFICIENCY

Central Office P.O. Box 96
Willimantic, Connecticut 06226.

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

1201 Sixteenth Street N.W.
Washington 6, D.C.

THE JOSEPH P. KENNEDY JR. FOUNDATION

1411 K Street N.W. Suite 402
Washington, D.C. 20005.

MENTAL RETARDATION BRANCH

Division of Chronic Diseases
U.S. Public Health Service
U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare
Washington D.C. 20201.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR RETARDED CHILDREN, INC.

420 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York 10017.

THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON MENTAL RETARDATION

Washington, D.C. 20201

SECRETARY'S COMMITTEE ON MENTAL RETARDATION

U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare.
Washington, D.C. 20201

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